

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05  
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15  
STR-05 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01  
/088 W

-----057607 220156Z /21

R 211444Z SEP 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1968  
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

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USEEC

GENEVA ALSO FOR MTN

E.O.11652:N/A  
TAGS: ETRD, MTN, EEC  
SUBJECT: EC INDUSTRY GROUP VIEWS ON CUSTOMS VALUATION

1. THE UNION OF INDUSTRIES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY (UNICE), THE LEADING INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION IN THE EC, HAS ADDRESSED A COMMUNICATION TO THE EC COMMISSION ON CUSTOMS VALUATION. UNICE EXPRESSES SUPPORT FOR AN AGREEMENT ON CUSTOMS VALUATION IN THE MTN, CALLING FOR A DEFINITION OF CUSTOMS VALUE WHICH WOULD BE CLEAR AND NEUTRAL AND WHICH WOULD BE APPLIED BY THE LARGEST POSSIBLE NUMBER OF COUNTRIES. UNICE ALSO SUGGESTS THAT A RELATIONSHIP BE ESTABLISHED BETWEEN TARIFF REDUCTIONS WHICH COME OUT OF THE MTN AND THE NEW CUSTOMS RULES SO THAT TARIFF CONCESSIONS ARE NOT CANCELLED OUT BY MANIPULATIONS ON CUSTOMS VALUE. IN UNICE'S OPINION, THE BASIS FOR ASSESSING THE VALUE OF AN IMPORT SHOULD

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BE THE INVOICED SELLING PRICE IN THE COUNTRY OF EXPORT, SO LONG AS THIS IS THE SAME PRICE CHARGED BY THE SELLER TO ANY BUYER. IN CASES WHERE THE BUYER AND SELLER ARE JURIDICALLY LINKED, THE INVOICE PRICE COULD STILL BE USED AND CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATIONS WOULD NEED TO BE PARTICULARLY VIGILANT TO DETERMINE THAT THIS LINK DID NOT HAVE AN INFLUENCE ON THE PRICE. IN ADDITION,

NO ELEMENT OF EXPENSE INCURRED IN THE IMPORTING COUNTRY, SUCH AS ADVERTISING COSTS, SHOULD BE INCORPORATED IN THE CUSTOMS VALUE.

2. A UNICE EMPLOYEE TOLD MISSION OFFICER THAT HIS ORGANIZATION HAD BEEN FOLLOWING THE CUSTOMS VALUATION QUESTION CLOSELY AND BELIEVED THAT NOW WAS THE APPROPRIATE TIME FOR MAKING ITS VIEWS KNOWN. BOTH UNICE AND EC COMMISSION OFFICIALS EXPECT THE EC TO TABLE A PROPOSAL - ON CUSTOMS VALUATION SHORTLY. THE UNICE EMPLOYEE INDICATED THAT UNICE'S MEMBER INDUSTRIES ARE ANXIOUS THAT A COMMON DEFINITION OF CUSTOMS VALUE COME OUT OF THE MTN. ALTHOUGH UNICE IS SATISFIED WITH THE PRESENT BRUSSELS DEFINITION OF VALUE AND WOULD LIKE TO KEEP IT, ORGANIZATION MEMBERS ARE AWARE THIS MAY NOT BE FULLY POSSIBLE. THEY WOULD THEREFORE BE PREPARED TO SUPPORT A COMPROMISE NEGOTIATED IN THE MTN. HINTON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INDUSTRY, TRADE, CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATION, NEGOTIATIONS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, TARIFFS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BRUSSE12388  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Message ID:** 8f778741-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EC INDUSTRY GROUP VIEWS ON CUSTOMS VALUATION  
**TAGS:** ETRD, EEC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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